

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01481 01 OF 02 310104Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 IO-13 HA-05 AID-05 SS-15  
EB-08 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
TRSE-00 H-01 ABF-01 /091 W  
-----051700 310228Z /64  
R 301438Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5509

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 OSLO 1481

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, NO  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL CAMBODIA  
TRIBUNAL

1. EMBASSY OFFICER WAS CONTACTED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO BY REPRESENT-  
ATIVES OF A NORWEGIAN ORGANIZATION CALLED THE INTERNATIONAL  
CAMBODIA TRIBUNAL COMMITTEE WHO ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE  
FOR THE MISSION TO GIVE ANY FINANCIAL OR OTHER ASSISTANCE TO  
THEIR PROJECT.

2. THE COMMITTEE'S INTENTION IS TO PUT TOGETHER A PANEL OF  
EXPERTS TO HEAR PUBLIC TESTIMONY APRIL 21-23 FROM REFUGEES AND  
OTHERS ON THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA. REPRESENTATIVES FROM  
THE PRESS AND OTHER ATTENDEES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ASK QUESTIONS  
OF THE PANEL AND THE WITNESSES. PANEL MEMBERS INVITED TO DATE  
ARE JOHN BARRON, AUTHOR OF KGB AND CAMBODIA: MURDER OF A GENTLE  
PEOPLE; JEAN LACOUTURE, A RECOGNIZED FRENCH AUTHORITY ON  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS; FRANCOIS PONCHAUD, FRENCH JESUIT, LONG-  
TIME RESIDENT OF CAMBODIA AND AUTHOR OF A NEW BOOK, CAMBODIA:  
THE ZERO HOUR; DAVID CHANDLER OF THE EAST ASIAN RESEARCH CENTER  
AT HAVARD; CHARLES TWINING, POSSIBLY A FORMER FOREIGN SERVICE  
OFFICER AND NOW INSTRUCTOR AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY AND NAYAN  
ZHANDA FROM THE FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW. MOST OF THE INVITEES  
INCLUDING BARRON HAVE ACCEPTED. MEDIA INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN  
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PAGE 02 OSLO 01481 01 OF 02 310104Z

EXTENDED TO NEWSWEEK, THE GUARDIAN, THE OBSERVER, THE TIMES OF  
LONDON, LE FIGERO AND LE EXPRESS. THEIR RESPONSE HAVE BEEN  
SIMILARLY POSITIVE.

3. THE TRIBUNAL COMMITTEE IS SPONSORED BY SOME OF NORWAY'S MOST  
PROMINENT POLITICIANS, REPRESENTING ALL MAJOR PARTIES. THE  
GODFATHER OF THE PROJECT IS SAID TO BE HAAKON LIE, THE GRAND OLD MAN

OF NORWEGIAN LABOR, WHILE PER KARSTENSEN, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRESIDENT OF THE UPPER HOUSE IS THE PRIMARY STEM-WINDER. THE COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED A GRANT OF APPROX 125,000 KRONER (23,000 US DOLLARS) FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

4. DURING SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMITTEE REPS IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT WHILE THE COMMITTEE COULD USE ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN ORDER TO MAKE UP THE ANTICIPATED BUDGET (205,000 KRONER) THEY ARE NOT IN DESPARATE NEED AS BUSINESSES AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS HAVE CONTRIBUTED GENEROUSLY. THE ANTICIPATED SHORTFALL NOW IS ONLY ABOUT \$1,000. THEY ARE ALSO SHORT OF INFORMATION ON CAMBODIA, PARTICULARLY ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND COULD USE FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE NATURE AS WELL. THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WITH WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN HAVE EVIDENCED A REALISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSSIBLE PITFALLS OF AN OVERT ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE TRIBUNAL AND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. HOWEVER, THIS HAS NOT DETERRED THEM FROM SEEKING OUR ASSISTANCE.

5. WE AGREED ON NEED TO AVOID OVERLY CLOSE IDENTIFICATION. IN OUR VIEW, GRANTING ASSISTANCE TO THE CAMBODIA TRIBUNAL IS IN THE USG'S

INTEREST. IT APPEARS CONSISTENT WITH THE PRESIDENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE IN CAMBODIA TODAY, ESPECIALLY WHEN UNDERTAKEN BY A RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTED GROUP SUCH AS THE CAMBODIA TRIBUNAL WITH THE BACKING OF A GOVERNMENT TRADITIONALLY ASSOCIATED  
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PAGE 03 OSLO 01481 01 OF 02 310104Z

WITH THE BEST HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS. FURTHERMORE, OUR ASSISTANCE NO MATTER WHAT FORM IT FINALLY TAKES WOULD BE SO SMALL IN COMPARISON TO THAT OFFERED BY NORWEGIAN SOURCES THAT WE COULD NOT

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PAGE 01 OSLO 01481 02 OF 02 310104Z  
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R 301438Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5510

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 OSLO 1481

CREDIBLY BE ACCUSED OF MANIPULATING THE EVENT EVEN IF IT BECAME A MATTER OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT WE HAD ASSISTED THEM. FINALLY, WE WOULD HAVE SUCCEEDED IN BRINGING HOME THE REALITY OF AMERICA'S HUMAN RIGHTS STANCE TO A LARGE AND INFLUENTIAL GROUP OF NORWEGIANS WHO SHARE, NO MATTER WHAT THEIR PARTY LABWS, A DEEP INTEREST IN THE CAUSE OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM. MANY OF THE SUPPORTERS OF THE TRIBUNAL ARE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO WERE THE STRONGEST CRITICS OF US-VIETNAM POLICY, THUS DEMONSTRATING THEIR OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE FROM PARTISAN CONSIDERATIONS. IT ALSO OFFERS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO DISTANCE OURSELVES FURTHER FROM THAT PERIOD AND ITS RESIDUAL ATMOSPHERICS.

6. UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES DIFFICULTIES, WE PLAN TO OFFER PER DIEM AND AN HONORARIUM TO JOHN BARRON, TOTALING APPROXIMATELY \$500.00. THIS WOULD RELIEVE THE NORWEGIANS OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPPORTING HIM WHILE IN OSLO.

7. FURTHER WE WOULD PLAN TO OFFER THEM INFORMATION ON CONDITIONS IN CAMBODIA TODAY. WE HAVE IDENTIFIED THE INDO-CHINA CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AS ONE USEFUL SOURCE FOR THE TRIBUNAL BUT WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT SUGGESTIONS ON OTHERS. OTHER ASSISTANCE COULD TAKE THE FORM OF HELPING THE TRIBUNAL TO CONTACT AMERICAN INVITEES, LOOKING UP ADDRESSES, MAKING USE OF EMBASSY'S (AND DEPARTMENT'S) RESEARCH CAPABILITIES OR SUPPLYING ADVICE ON SUCH QUESTIONS AS SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION. IN FACT THE TRIBUNAL HAS ASKED IF WE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 OSLO 01481 02 OF 02 310104Z

COULD CONTACT THE FOLLOWING AMERICAN INVITEES AND ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY PLAN TO ATTEND OR NOT: PHD RESEARCH ASSOCIATE DAVID P. CHANDLER, EAST ASIAN RESEARCH CENTER, HARVARD U, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.; CHARLES TWINING, CORNELL U, ITHACA, NY, TEL. 607-256-1000; JOAN BAEZ, C/O CHANDOZ PRODUCTIONS, POBOX 1026, MENLO PARK, CA 94025; JAMES WILLIAM FULBRIGHT, HOGAN AND HARTSON ATTORNIERS, 815 CONNECTICUT AVE, WASHINGTON, TEL. 331-4500; HARRISON EVANS SALISBURY, 229 WEST 43 STREET, NY, NY 10036; ERIC SEVAREID, C/O CBS, 2020 M STREET NW, WASHINGTON; NEWSWEEK 444 MADISON AVENUE, NY, NY 1022.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) FORWARDING BY POUCH PERTINENT SECTIONS OF THE IDO-CHINA CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND ANY OTHER CAMBODIAN AND/OR HUMAN RIGHTS MATERIAL THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE TRIBUNAL. (B) CONTACTING THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN PARA 7.  
BREMER

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014